MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D.C., November 10,1949

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1950, was held in its Office in the Interior Department Building on Thursday, November 10, 1949. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Sterne,
Mr. Murphy,
Mr. Lawrie,
also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COMMISSION: The Minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on October 17, 1949, were approved.

2. BUST OF JAMES V. FORRESTAL: Chairman Clarke reported that yesterday, November 9th, a Committee Meeting was held in the Office of Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson, which the Chairman and Mr. Finley attended, as well as Mr. Johnson among others, to advise concerning designs and sketch models that had been submitted by 36 sculptors.

Mr. Clarke said: "Some months ago Secretary of Defense Johnson asked Mr. Finley and me to serve on a Committee to secure a bust of the first Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal; for this proposed Memorial a sum in excess of $32,000 has been raised, $5,000 of which is to defray the cost of a bust, the balance will be used to endow a fellowship or a scholarship at a University, probably at Princeton. Since we were addressed officially as Director of the National Gallery of Art and as Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, respectively, we agreed to serve.

Subsequently, without reference either to Mr. Finley or to me, a general letter was sent out inviting sculptors to submit designs, or sketch models, for a bust of Mr. Forrestal. Against such a procedure strong protest was made by Bryant Baker in the Press, and that is how it came to my attention. The sculptors were not paid for their submissions; the procedure was not carried out under what we would call a "Program of Competition." A jury was not provided for.

On the recommendation of Messrs. Finley and Clarke the Committee agreed to appoint a professional jury to report their findings and if

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D.C., November 30, 1939

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1939, was held in the Office of the Secretary beginning at Thursday, November 30, 1939. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman
Mr. Finley
Mr. Mayre
Mr. Goldsborough
Mr. Sturgis
Mr. Murphy
Mr. Lawrie

also Mr. E. Dewpenter, Secretary pro tem.

Administrative Matters.

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF THE COMMISSION: The minutes of the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on October 27, 1939, were approved.

2. BUST OF JAMES V. FORRESTAL: Chairman Clarke reported that Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal, during November 3rd, a Commissioner to meet with Secretary of Defense Louis A. Johnson, Mr. Finley, Mr. Lawrie, Mr. Jefferson Caffery, and Mr. Goldsborough, to discuss with him the location of a bust of Mr. Forrestal, which has been given to the Government by Mr. Bernard Baruch.

Mr. Clarke said that some months ago Secretary of Defense Johnson asked Mr. Finley and me to serve on a Committee to secure a bust of the late Secretary of Defense James V. Forrestal, for this purpose, which a sum in excess of $25,000 has been raised, $5,000 of which is to be used for each of a bust, the balance will be used to endow a fellowship or a scholarship at a university, probably at Princeton. Since we were informed officially as Director of the National Gallery of Art and as Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, respectively, to appear to serve, subsequently, without reference either to Mr. Finley or me, a general letter was sent out inviting sculptors to submit designs, in models, for a bust of Mr. Forrestal. Against such a procedure strong protest was made by Bryant Baker in the press, and what is now at issue to my attention. The sculptors were not paid for their submissions; the procedure was not carried out under what we would call a "Program of Competition." A jury was not provided for.

(b) the recommendation of Messrs. Finley and Clarke the Committee agreed to appoint a professional jury to record their findings and if

possible to determine which sculptor, if any, who submitted a plaster model, should be awarded the commission to prepare a final model for casting in bronze.

A location was selected tentatively for the placing of a bust of Mr. Forrestal at one side of the portico at the so-called Mall entrance to the Pentagon Building.

The following were chosen to serve on the Jury: Mr. Lawrie, and Mr. Murphy, representing the Commission of Fine Arts; and Associate Professor Charles Seymour, Jr., of Yale, formerly Curator of Sculpture at the National Gallery of Art.

The Jury will meet with Messrs. Clarke and Finley of the Committee at the Pentagon on Friday, December 2, at 2:30 p.m.

3. CARNEGIE ENDOWMENT BUILDING, at Jackson Place and Pennsylvania Avenue: Chairman Clarke called attention to a letter (Exhibit A) sent by Dean Wurster, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission to Dr. James T. Shotwell, President of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, on October 28th, regarding a proposed sale of their building at this location, and suggesting that the matter be held in abeyance in view of the proximity of the building to the White House.

The Commission felt that this is an important matter. It was recalled that at the October meeting of the Commission information was received that someone proposed to erect an office building at the site.

4. "NEVIUS TRACT": The Secretary reported concerning the "Nevius Tract". He indicated that he was recently informed that the hospital, proposed to be erected by the Veterans Administration, the design for which was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts, is not to be built. The land, comprising 25 acres, is now in the possession of the United States Government.

Chairman Clarke commented on the situation, and explained that, if the Government will not build a hospital at the site, the land might be sold as "surplus Government property" and in that event private interests might acquire it and build an apartment there. Thus, since for many years the Commission of Fine Arts, and also the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, have

urgently recommended that the "Nevius Tract" be acquired by the Government as an addition to the Arlington National Cemetery, he thought the Commission should address a letter to Secretary of Defense Johnson, recommending that this be done. The Commission concurred in the matter and a letter was sent to Mr. Johnson accordingly (Exhibit B).

5. REHABILITATING THE COURT OF CLAIMS BUILDING: Honorable David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol, appeared before the Commission and presented a letter (Exhibit C), requesting advice of the Commission of Fine Arts regarding a proposition to rehabilitate the Court of Claims building at Seventeenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest,-the old Corcoran Gallery of Art.

The Commission considered the matter carefully, and recognized that the building, built in 1859, is one of the old historic landmarks of the city. Furthermore, it has a very prominent location adjacent to the Blair House and near the White House.

The Commission recognized the fact that the building will require extensive repairs, and decided that in carrying out the work the facades of the structure should be kept as nearly as possible as they were originally. Mr. Lynn concurred in this. The building is constructed of brick and red sandstone.

As to a recommendation that the building be painted, the Commission decided that no determination can be made at this time as to color; the Commission requested, therefore, that the question of painting be deferred until the exterior is repaired in keeping with original character of building.

The Commission interposed no objection to a suggestion by Mr. Lynn to build an addition over the garage in back of the Court building. It is understood that plans for it will be submitted in due time.

A Report was sent to Mr. Lynn accordingly (Exhibit C-1) .

urgently recommend that the "Morris Tract" be acquired by the Government as an addition to the Arlington National Cemetery, by purchase from Commander Morris and others a lease to perpetuity of Lafayette Square, presumably that this may be done. The Commission concurred in the matter and a letter was sent to Mr. Johnson accordingly (Exhibit B).

5. RENOVATING THE CAPITOL OF UNITED STATES: Honorable Glenn Brown, Architect of the Capitol, appeared before the Commission and presented a letter (Exhibit D), requesting advice of the Commission of five sites regarding a proposition to rehabilitate the Court of Claims building, Connecticut Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest,--the old Corcoran Gallery of Art.

The Commission considered the matter carefully, and recognized that the building, built in 1859, is one of the old historic landmarks of the city. Furthermore, it has a very prominent location adjacent to the White House and near the White House.

The Commission recognized the fact that the building will require extensive repairs, and decided that it favoring out the most the features of the structure should be kept as nearly as possible as they were originally. Mr. Lyon concurred in this. The building is constructed of brick and sandstone.

As to a recommendation that the building be painted, the Commission decided that no determination can be made at this time as to color; but Commission requested, therefore, that the question of painting be deferred until the exterior is repaired in keeping with original appearance of building.

The Commission interposed no objection to a suggestion by Mr. Lyon to build an addition over the garage in back of the Court building. It is understood that plans for it will be submitted in due time.

A letter was sent to Mr. Lyon accordingly (Exhibit C).

6. DESIGN FOR BUILDING AT 21ST. and VIRGINIA AVENUE, N.W.: Under date of November 9, 1949, an application was received from the Inspector of Buildings, of the District of Columbia, for a building at 21st Street and Virginia Avenue, N.W. (Application No. 1291). The Commission disapproved it.

The Commission referred the matter to Mr. Murphy for a conference with the architect regarding the design.

7. WORLD WAR II CEMETERIES PROPOSED BY THE OFFICE OF THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL, DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY: Under date of October 31, 1949, a letter was received from Colonel E. V. Freeman, Chief of the Memorial Division, Office of the Quartermaster General, Department of the Army (Exhibit D), requesting advice regarding designs for three proposed memorials in national cemeteries outside of the continental United States, "i.e., National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Hawaii), Sitka National Cemetery (Alaska); and the Puerto Rico National Cemetery."

The Commission considered the three sets of plans and took the following action:

(a) National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Hawaii): The Commission gave general approval to the plans at this stage in their development. Certain suggestions were made including the simplification of the treatment at the top and rear of the amphitheatre.

(b) Sitka, Alaska, National Cemetery: The Commission approved the design for the memorial building at the present stage of development with the understanding that it will be designed for construction in granite and that the names of the missing service-men will be inscribed in granite instead of cast in bronze. The retaining walls, steps, and terrace in the vicinity of the memorial itself should also be in granite.

(c) Puerto Rico National Cemetery: The Commission approved the plans at the present stage in their development with the suggestion that (a) the architectural element in back of the rostrum be omitted; (b) that the existing terrace where the flagpole is situated be simplified; and (c) that the possibility of using large stepping-stones, of the same material as the steles, be substituted for the walks.

The Commission requested a resubmission of the three sets of drawings when they are further developed.

A copy of the discussion is attached hereto and made a part of these Minutes (Exhibit D-1) A Report was sent to Colonel Freeman (Exhibit D-2).

8. SCULPTURE FOR THE NEW DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURT HOUSE: Hon. A.S. Thorn, Supervising Architect, Public Buildings Administration, in company with Mr. Louis A. Justement, Architect, of the new District of Columbia Court House, considered in detail questions related to the placing of four marble figures, to be 4' in height, representing four of the great law-givers,-Hammurabi, Justinian, Solon, and Moses, on the wall back of the Judges' bench in the large court room of the building.

The Commission expressed the opinion that, because of the importance of these great law-givers of the past, over life-sized figures (about 7' high) would be more appropriate than the smaller 4' figures.

Mr. Sterne suggested full-sized figures carved in relief on the wall back of the judges' bench, but Mr. Justement said the marble to be used is dark and figures in relief could not be seen at a distance.

After a thorough discussion of the subject, the Commission expressed the opinion that while they would prefer 7½ foot figures in place of the 4' figures proposed by the sculptor, Sidney Waugh, and the architect, Mr. Justement, they feel, nevertheless, that, inasmuch as the sculptor and the architect are satisfied with the 4' figures, they will interpose no objection to carrying out the work as they have recommended (Exhibit E).

9. SCULPTURE FOR THE GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING: Hon. A. S. Thorn, Supervising Architect, in company with Mr. Joseph Kiselewski, sculptor, submitted photographs of a first study of a scale model, for one of two bas-reliefs to be carved in granite at the south entrance of the new General

Accounting Office building, which is being erected at 5th and G Streets, N.W.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Lawrie, the Commission approved the model, based on the photographs submitted. It is understood that a photograph of the completed model will be submitted to the Commission at a future meeting, and that the final model will be inspected by the sculptor member of the Commission, Mr. Lawrie. (Exhibit F).

The Commission look forward to the submission of a photograph of the model for the opposite side of the south entrance when Mr. Kiselewski is ready to submit it.

10. APPOINTMENT OF SUPERVISING ARCHITECTS. The Commission congratulated Mr. Thorn on his recent appointment as Supervising Architect of the Public Buildings Administration. His predecessor, Mr. Gilbert Stanley Underwood, has been appointed Deputy Commissioner for Design and Construction.

11. DESIGN FOR AMERICAN MILITARY CEMETERY AT SAINT JAMES, FRANCE: Brigadier General Thomas North, Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission, submitted a revised design by Mr. William T. Aldrich, Architect, for the American Military Cemetery at Saint James, France.

The Commission inspected the design and were well pleased with it. Mr. Aldrich explained details of the drawings.

A report of approval was sent to General North (Exhibit G).

12. MEMORIAL TO MAHATMAH GANDHI: In accordance with arrangements made, the Commission were in conference with Mr. J. J. Singh, President of the India League of America, 40 East 49th Street, New York City, regarding a memorial to Mahatmah Gandhi in the City of Washington, as authorized by Public Law 309, of the 81st Congress, approved September 28, 1949. A letter setting forth some suggestions regarding the proposed memorial was received and considered by the Commission (Exhibit H). The Commission took note of the fact that there

is to be a memorial building, and that the Commission of Fine Arts is to advise as to the location.

Chairman Clarke stated that the Commission is interested in securing an appropriate memorial to Mahatmah Gandhi, but that they are powerless to select a location that would contemplate taking private land (about 5 acres are desired), and the Act does not specify that land owned by the Government is contemplated as a site for this memorial.

The Commission suggested that, before taking further action in the matter, an opinion be secured from the Attorney General. Mr. Singh said he would attend to this at once.

13. STATUE OF SIMON BOLIVAR: The Secretary called attention to Public Law 157, providing for the erection of a statue of Simon Bolivar in the District of Columbia, approved July 5, 1949. (Exhibit I)

14. AMPHITHEATRE FOR THE SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: Mr. Robert C. Horne, Acting Assistant Superintendent, Merel Sager, Chief of the Designing Division, and William Haussmann, architect, of the Office of National Capital Parks, National Park Service, Department of the Interior, submitted a design for an amphitheatre proposed for erection in Rock Creek Park, near Sixteenth Street and Colorado Avenue, which is to serve as an out-of-door amphitheatre, of permanent construction, and to hold about 5,000 persons. It is proposed to have it completed by June, 1950, for a play on George Washington, which is being written by the well-known dramatist Paul Green. It is to be similar to the amphitheatre that has been built at Williamsburg, Virginia.

The Commission inspected the design. The Commission concurred in a suggestion of Chairman Clarke that native stone be used for the buildings, similar in character to that of the old Pierce Mill in Rock Creek Park.

Mr. Sager said the amphitheatre will have a sylvan surrounding. The topography is such that it will be built on a gradual slope, surrounded by trees.

The Commission regarded this submission as a "preliminary design" and approved it as such. When the plans (incorporating suggestions made by the Commission) are carried to the next stage of development, the Commission stated they would like to review them. (Exhibit J).

15. PAN AMERICAN ANNEX: The Commission inspected the grounds of the Pan American Annex and expressed great disappointment over the manner in which the planting has been done. Chairman Clarke gave the matter particular attention, and said the planting has been done by someone who appears to be incompetent to undertake so important an assignment. He objected in particular to the great amount of small plant material, and said such plants as azaleas and purple leaved flowering crabapples, for example, are wholly inappropriate.

The Commission concurred in the suggestion of Chairman Clarke that the "Pan American Union" appoint a competent landscape architect, so that the planting on the grounds will do justice to this monumental building. A letter was sent to Dr. William Manger, Assistant Secretary of the Organization of American States (Pan American Union) accordingly (Exhibit K).

The Commission adjourned at 3:30 p.m. The Commission had luncheon at the National Gallery of Art, on the invitation of Director Finley. After the luncheon Director Finley showed the Commission the "Exhibition of Art Treasures from the Vienna Collections, lent by the Austrian Government", that has recently been received and which is to be opened to the public on November 20th.

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts will be held in Washington on Friday, January 6, 1950.

[illegible]. Roger Call the Superintendent will have a [illegible] conversation. The topography is such that it will be [illegible] several plans, [illegible] of [illegible].

The Commission regarded this application as a [illegible] but observed it as such. When the plans [illegible] the conditions are carried to the best [illegible] the Commission stated they would like [illegible].

IV. THE BUILDING AGENCY: The Commission inspected the [illegible] the Ian Maclean House was progressing [illegible] in which the planting has been done. Chairman Clarke [illegible] particular attention, and said the planting [illegible] appears to be inadequate to guarantee an [illegible] objected in particular to the [illegible] material, and said [illegible] plants as [illegible] and purple leaved [illegible]. [illegible], are mostly inappropriate.

The Commission concurred in the suggestion of Chairman Clarke that the "Pan American Union" organize a competent landscape architect, so that the planting on the grounds will be worthy of this monumental building.

A letter was sent to Dr. William Manger, [illegible] Secretary of the Organization of American States (Pan American Union) accordingly (Item 6).

The Commission adjourned at [illegible]. The next meeting [illegible] the Federal Gallery of Art, on the [illegible] Director Finley, since the Junior Director Finley chaired the Commission the [illegible] at Treasures from the Vienna Collections, lent by the Austrian Government, that has recently been received and which is to be opened to the public on November 16th.

The next meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts will be held in [illegible] on Friday, January 6, 1950.

COPY

NATIONAL CAPITAL PARK AND PLANNING COMMISSION

INTERIOR BUILDING,
Washington, D.C.
October 28, 1949.

Dr. James T. Shotwell, President
Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
405 W. 117th Street
New York 27, New York

Dear Dr. Shotwell:

The National Capital Park and Planning Commission has a deep interest in the total environmental aspect of Washington and environs. The members have expressed a desire to retain as much of the old Washington flavor as possible. This becomes particularly appropriate in the neighborhood of the White House and Blair House - in fact in the entire Lafayette Square surround. We hope the Cosmos building will stand, the Decatur House, and this includes your property at 700 Jackson Place. With certain changes in the plans of the Public Buildings Administration, we believe there is a possibility that the Cosmos Club and the old Corcoran building will not be torn down to make way for office buildings.

It would be a splendid thing for the beauty of our city if your buildings could be used "as is." I want to make inquiry at this time if you will bear in mind our feeling in this regard and, if possible, move slowly in the disposal of the property. We ask this as it will give us time to seek a way to solve this problem. From the move made in announcing the desire to sell, I take it your organization wishes to realize a considerable sum and could not consider renting it "as is"?

I wish to express appreciation to Mr. Stouffer who so kindly received me in your Washington office.

Sincerely yours,

William W. Wurster
Chairman

Copies to
Mr. George A. Finch, Counselor, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
700 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C.
Mr. H.P. Caemmerer, Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts
Maj. Gen. Glen E. Edgerton, Executive Director, Commission on Renovation of the Executive Mansion, The White House
Mr. W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of Public Buildings, General Services Administration

EXHIBIT A

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 17, 1949.

Dear Secretary Johnson:

For many years the Commission of Fine Arts have looked forward to the acquisition of a tract of land, comprising about 25 acres, by the Government for the Arlington National Cemetery located on the extension of the central axis of the Mall in Arlington County, Virginia, long designated as the "Nevius Tract". The National Capital Park and Planning Commission hasconcurred in this recommendation and has taken an active part in an endeavor to interest the appropriate authorities to acquire the land for the purpose heretofore indicated. About two years ago this 25 acre parcel was acquired by the Government through the Veterans Administration for a hospital. Now, we understand, the hospital will not be constructed on the so-called "Nevius Tract" and we are greatly concerned that the property may be disposed of as "surplus" with the resultant threat of having tall apartment houses erected in the line of the Mall and in view of the Central Composition, thus to destroy the background of the Lincoln Memorial. Some years ago an insurance company planned to acquire the property in question so as to erect apartments but fortunately the Government, through the Veterans Administration, condemned the land for hospital purposes.

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on November 10, 1949, this matter was again considered and it was decided to authorize the Chairman to address a letter to you recommending that the "Nevius Tract", which adjoins the Arlington National Cemetery, be made an integral part of it. I sincerely hope that this may be brought about under your direction. Needless to say, the land in question would be a most welcome addition to the Arlington National Cemetery.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Honorable Louis A. Johnson
Secretary of National Defense
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT B

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

Washington, D. C.

November 9, 1949.

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman
The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Clarke:

The United States Court of Claims Building, constructed in 1859 for use as an Art Gallery, was acquired by the Government in 1901 for the United States Court of Claims, and has since been continuously occupied by that Court.

The exterior of the building consists of brown sandstone and painted face brick. Over a period of years the brown sandstone has disintegrated and eroded away, necessitating replacing some of the stones and removal of the loose small areas to eliminate the hazard to sidewalk pedestrians by falling pieces of stone. All architectural treatment, such as belt courses, quoins, pilasters, main cornices, segmented pediments are all sandstone and in some places present a very unsightly and eroded appearance.

It is now proposed to cut back small pieces of stone to a true plane, replace some of the badly eroded stone with new pieces of cast stone and in other sections pad out the stone with stucco. Upon the completion of the face lifting of the stone, it is proposed to paint the entire building in order to reduce the very considerable contrast between the building as it now exists and the adjoining Blair House, temporary residence of the President.

The badly eroded cheek blocks on either side of the main entrance steps and the worn entrance steps are also to be replaced under the Renovation Program.

As I am submitting estimates for the fiscal year 1951 to take care of the proposed improvements to the Court of Claims Building, I would appreciate the advice and assistance of the Fine Arts Commission, especially with regard to the practicability of painting the building and a possible selection of the color to be used.

The advice of your Commission is further sought with regard to a proposal also included in the 1951 estimate of appropriation to reconstruct and enlarge the existing small rear structure, now used mainly as a garage by the Court, to provide additional office accommodations for the Court.

Yours very truly,

(Signed)David Lynn,
Architect of the Capitol.

EXHIBIT C

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 17, 1949

My dear Mr. Lynn:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on November 10, 1949, were pleased to consider your letter of November 9th, regarding a proposed restoration of the Court of Claims Building, at Seventeenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, and to confer with you on the subject.

It is recognized that this is one of the old landmarks of the City, having been built in 1859 for use of the Corcoran Gallery of Art. The prominent location of this building makes the problem of restoration for continued use by the Court of Claims an important one, more particularly because of the proximity of the structure to the White House.

It is evident that the exterior of the building will require extensive repairs; in carrying these out the Commission recommend that the design of the facades of the structure be retained as nearly as possible as they were originally. We were glad to learn that you concur in this recommendation.

Before giving consideration to the question of whether or not the building should be painted, the Commission concur with you that it would be best to wait until the repairs have been made, at which time that matter may be made the subject of study.

The Commission approve the construction of an addition over the present garage adjacent to the Court building.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Honorable David Lynn,
Architect of the Capitol,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT C-1

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE AUARTERMASTER GENERAL

eply refer to
C 231.24

Washington 25, D. C.

31 October 1949

Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D.C.
ATTENTION: Mr. Caemmerer

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

In 1948 the 80th Congress passed Public Law 871, and act which charged the Department of the Army with the responsibility for erecting monuments commemorating those World War II dead "whose bodies have not been recovered or identified or have been buried at sea."

To carry out the responsibilities of the Secretary of the Army, it is proposed to erect suitable memorials in the three national cemeteries outside the continental United States, i.e., National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Hawaii), Sitka National Cemetery (Alaska), and the Puerto Rico National Cemetery.

During a telephone conversation between you and Major Kirk of this Office on 23 September 1949, it was agreed that the Commission would act as advisers and that proposed schemes of the memorials would be presented to the Commission during its November meeting. It was also agreed that representatives of the architectural firms who prepared the preliminary plans and Department of the Army representatives from the Office of The Quartermaster General and Office of the Chief of Engineers would be present.

Confirming our telephone conversations on 21 and 25 October, it is understood that this project will be placed on the agenda of the Commission's November 10th meeting at 10:00 A.M.

Your cooperation and assistance in this matter are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) E. V. FREEMAN
Colonel, QMG
Chief, Memorial Division

EXHIBIT D

EXHIBIT 9

TRANSCRIPT OF DISCUSSION

ON THE PROPOSED MEMORIALS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

IN HONOLULU, HAWAII: SITKA, ALASKA, AND PUERTO RICO

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts

Held in Washington on November 10, 1949.

The following joined the meeting at this point:

Colonel E. V. Freeman, Chief, Memorial Division, OQMG, USA
Colonel J. B. Clearwater, OQMG, USA
Colonel R. G. Amlong, Chief, Cemetery Branch, OQMG, USA
Major F. W. Kirk, Assistant Chief, Cemetery Branch, OQMG, USA
C. J. Dorman, Architect and Assistant Chief, Development Section, Cemetery Branch, OQMG, USA
L. H. Zach, Chief, Planning Branch, OCE, USA
A. M. Kruze, Chief, Projects Section OCE, USA
H. L. Whitesell, Chief, National Cemetery Unit, OCE, USA
N. D. Monfalcone, Assistant Chief, Structures Branch, OCE, USA
Mr. Kruse, Architectural firm of Weihe, Frick & Kruse
Mr. Johnston, Architectural firm of Foss & Mallolm

COLONEL FREEMAN: Gentlemen, we brought up the drawings this morning, together with the architects, on some of the memorials which we plan to establish in some of the national cemeteries such as Puerto Rico, Hawaii and Alaska. We have just made a preliminary review of these and we would like to ask your assistance in going over these drawings to give us the benefit of your advice. Of course, we have the usual stipulation that we are limited in funds and that is one thing we have to give consideration to. The architects are present--Mr. Zach and Mr. Johnston and Mr. Kruse--and they can explain anything in connection with their work.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Colonel, may I ask one question before proceeding to the designs? With respect to the burials, you use the standard, master stone, flat on top?

COLONEL FREEMAN: In the two cemeteries at Hawaii and Puerto Rico we are going to use the flat marker. That differs from the upright marker that we use in Arlington.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What is the spacing of the graves?

MAJOR KIRK: They are 5 by 10 in Hawaii in order to get additional grave site. The rim of the crater was such that we could only get so much space.

In Puerto Rico they are 6 by 12.

In Alaska they are mostly 6 by 12; some are smaller.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I am comparing this with the Battle Monuments in European Theater. They are 6 by 12. Two meters by 3. So you are a little further apart o one and about what they are on the other.

MR. ALDRICH: What kind of stone are the markers?

COLONEL FREEMAN: Granite.

MR. ALDRICH: Light or dark?

COLONEL FREEMAN: Light color.

MR. ALDRICH: Gray.

MAJOR KIRK: Gray. They are 12 by 24 inches in size, 4 inches thick. They l flat on the ground.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What do you want?

COLONEL FREEMAN: We would like, first, to take up the Punchbowl in Hawaii. Major Kirk, would you take on from here on the Hawaii cemetery?

MAJOR KIRK: Here are various photographs which will give you a better pictur of what the ground looks like. These are aerial photos of the Punchbowl, within t city of Honolulu, which has been used for the National Cemetery. This was during the stage of development. The National Cemetery is almost completely finished now and will be dedicated very soon.

Honolulu is all around in this general direction here and down below here is Pearl Harbor. [Sketches displayed.] Off in this direction is Diamond Head.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Have any burials ever been made there before this war?

MAJOR KIRK: No.

The main entrance to the National Cemetery is at this end and, as you come do you get a vista down to the rear end of the crater where we were going to put an amphitheater memorial and combine that with a rostrum here.

Overseas, the Battle Monuments in their schemes are putting in chapels. Our intention is different for several reasons. Here in Hawaii the weather is such th they can carry on outdoor ceremonies. At Eastertime, in the Punchbowl, over the

ast forty or fifty years they have had sunrise services where they have had 5,000 o 15,000 people gather. We estimate we will have that many people come here. We ntended to have those ceremonies carried on here and provide sufficient space up ere where the people could gather, and use the walls of the memorial to inscribe he names.

When we discussed the matter with the Office of the Chief of Engineers, we stimated that we would have 35,000 names that would have to be inscribed on some ort of structure in this cemetery, because we estimate there are 35,000 who have ost their lives in the Pacific area who will be memorialized here. That was quite problem, to get enough wall space. So we felt maybe an amphitheater memorial ould do it, where we could inscribe the names on the walls.

COLONEL FREEMAN: Those are the names of the men who are lost and not recovered. e have to memorialize them in one place or the other.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: You gentlemen will work with the Battle Monuments to see that here is no duplication between Manila and this one? That is the largest cemetery hey have.

COLONEL FREEMAN: It has been done. They are going to inscribe the names in ther chapels overseas, in Europe and Africa, and we are coordinating it and deciding which will go in each place.

MAJOR KIRK: I will let Mr. Kruse from the firm in San Francisco, who have lanned this, to come up and explain his views as to why he has designed it this way.

MR. KRUSE: The Major has explained very well the general layout and outline and ur main effort here has been to build something that won't be an eyesore when it is ot occupied. There will be very few occasions in the year when it will be filled. herefore, we have arrived at the scheme of sloping terraces to be planted in lawn, o the sides will be filled with trees or shrubs.

The whole thing will blend into the general landscape scheme of the National emetery.

In discussions with the Quartermaster and with the Office of Engineers, the oint has come up whether to cut down the rim of the crater because of possible riticism by people of Honolulu, and it was the consensus that it might be better to eave the rim intact and have this whole amphitheater within the rim. There would e a certain amount of excavation to cut and fill to form this part on either side nd form the bowl.

The main floor of the cemetery is down at this level and at that level we ropose to have the map of the Pacific, which would be in relief and would be filled ith water and the islands would stand above it and the major engagements would be ndicated on that map, which could be seen from below or from the upper terrace level ere.

The rostrum would be here and the parterre here and the terraces here where crowds could be seated.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Where are the burials to be?

MR. KRUSE: In all this area on both sides.

MR. REINHARD: What is the approach? Where do you park?

Map displayed.

MAJOR KIRK: This is orientated the same way as this picture here.

MR. ALDRICH: What is the dimension of the crater?

MAJOR KIRK: Approximately 1,200 feet.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Then you will have 6,000, 7,000 graves.

MAJOR KIRK: The Engineers have been able to get 25,000 grave sites, of which approximately half are already filled with World War II dead.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: But contrary to the way Battle Monuments does its work, you will continue to add graves, whereas they do not when they finish.

MAJOR KIRK: The entire cemetery is being developed at one time, to do the whole job at one time.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: When you finish the burials for World War II, you will continue burials.

MAJOR KIRK: Yes.

MR. ALDRICH: Hasn't this been published in the present number of the National Geographic?

[General discussion.]

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: We are raising the question about the material and I was to you plan to use marble. I raise the question whether or not in that climate limestone would not be quieter than white marble.

MR. KRUSE: As far as color goes, limestone might be more attractive, although you could get different types of marble and, if you had a sand finish, you would get the same effect in a short time as you would with limestone.

COLONEL FREEMAN: How about wearing qualities?

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: A monument grade of limestone.

MR. KRUSE: One of the main reasons for turning to marble, the effect being practically the same, is that marble was found to be cheaper because we can get it in thinner slabs to stand up.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: And the names could be carved smaller.

MR. STERNE: White marble?

MR. KRUSE: I would say it would be a tannish marble of some kind.

MR. STERNE: The light is a rather soft light in Hawaii and I think that marble might be better than limestone because of the heavy rains that you have there.

MR. KRUSE: I wouldn't be surprised. Surprisingly, you do not get a great amount of rain at this point. I believe it is somewhere in the neighborhood of 4-25 inches a year. During the summer there is very little, a light sprinkle, that dries up as soon as it falls. It is only during the winter months that it falls heavily.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What is the height of the walls between the green terraces? As I understand, the terraces are sloped some.

MR. KRUSE: That is correct.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Then you have a wide walk in front of the walls. How high are the walls?

MR. KRUSE: Six feet high.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: So the names could be up to the top.

COLONEL FREEMAN: It is contemplated that the spectators sit on the grass, without chairs or anything else.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Instead of steps, couldn't you use a step ramp? A step ramp would put it on about 20 per cent.

MR. ZACH: That is what we will have to do.

COLONEL FREEMAN: Yes.

MAJOR KIRK: We have determined that we can maintain economically any grass only if it is on a 20 per cent slope. As far as using power equipment is concerned, one man can operate up to 20 per cent; above that you would have to use a rope and a second man.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: That would pull it out. That would not be harmful.

MR. KRUSE: You have to have steps to rise from one platform to the next to take up that six-foot wall, but we could have ramps around the end.

MR. ZACH: Equipment would have to come up the side.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What would be the pavement on these ramp stamps, marble?

MR. KRUSE: They would be concrete. They have a coral concrete there which they use.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Wouldn't the risers of the steps have to be marble?

MR. KRUSE: The coral concrete fooled me. I thought it war marble. It is very good-looking. They have constructed some gates at the entrance of that cemetery and they are very good-looking.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I wonder if you should not use marble, at least where the steps are, because you are going to see the face of the walls.

MR. KRUSE: We are going to be faced with the problem of funds.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: That is a small amount of marble, when you go to all that.

MR. KRUSE: Each little bit adds up.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Then all those walls down below and along that pool will be inscribed with various names?

MR. KRUSE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Do the members of the Commission--

MR. KRUSE: I was carried away with the idea of having it seen from below, from the city, and I think the idea of being able to look out from that point is something to be considered, too; but, as far as the thing within the crater itself I believe I prefer it as shown in the first sketch.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Colonel, what do you want us to do? Give you our general impression and say that what we see here in these sketches are satisfactory.

COLONEL FREEMAN: That is right.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I haven't heard any objections. Are there any objections to the general scheme?

MAJOR KIRK: We want to provide a memorial for these men and inscribe their names.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I think I express the feelings of the Commission that in iew of the large number of names you have to record, that is a very handsome way o do it. Isn't that the impression of the Commission? The people can walk quietly n a level and not have to do a lot of climbing. They will go to some headquarters nd find out where the name of the deceased is and they will find the name.

COLONEL FREEMAN: They are considering putting the names in alphabetical order ithout regard to rank.

MR. ALDRICH: I do not see any reason for this.

MR. REINHARD: There is no reason for this. It is not used for anything. I ould like it to end in the crater. There is nothing in that, is there?

MAJOR KIRK: Nothing whatever.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Where do you display the national colors?

MR. KRUSE: There are flagpoles in the mall approaching the entrance to the emetery. Whether there should be more--

COLONEL FREEMAN: I do not think so. We have the flag in just one site.

MR. ALDRICH: Is there any general inscription, a title of the cemetery?

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: You could not read it. The purpose was to see it from the ity. Don't you feel that you should make a study to omit it and make it simple and estrained, and let your focal point be at the lower point where the speaker's ostrum is.

When the drawings are made in a little more complete fashion, will you just end us a set of them?

COLONEL FREEMAN: We would be very happy to do so.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I do not mean the final drawings, but the drawings you prepare s preliminaries and send to the Army. Send us a set and we will give you formal pproval.

MR. KRUSE: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I think it is very handsome. I think, however, the criticisms re well taken.

[Model of Puerto Rico National Cemetery displayed.]

MAJOR KIRK: This is in Puerto Rico and it is just 33 miles from San Juan in a lace that the Navy used during the war. We have developed 18 acres for the emetery. The 18 acres we have developed are shown by the red line you see here.

This is the entrance. San Juan is over in this direction, immediately to the Northwest. As we make the entrance into here, we have a vista down there, throu to a flagpole at this point. This flagpole is in with its area in flagstone sur rounding it. Immediately behind the flagpole is the area we designated for this memorial. The number of names we are going to memorialize there is approximatel 3500. These are aerial photographs.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Are all these names Army?

COLONEL FREEMAN: All services.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: That obtains on all cemeteries?

COLONEL FREEMAN: That is correct.

MAJOR KIRK: These are aerial photographs showing the state of construction the cemetery. It is all completed as far as the original 18 acres is concerned; however, these pictures were taken prior to the completion of construction. We thought we could carry out the same idea, generally speaking, as we carried out there, not a chapel, but an open area where they could have a rostrum and gather- ing-place and also some walls to inscribe the names.

MR. TOMBS: Gentlemen, my problem was to find a way where 3500 names could written in the area directly behind the existing coat-of-arms and flagpole and co form to the site. I went down there and was impressed with the lovely valley and the surrounding small mountains, about 150 feet high, very small in scale. It ap peared to me that what I did not want to do was conflict with the landscape and mountains. Anything that I did that was big and stood up would be a scar and a sore against the landscape. It seemed to me that it ought to be very minor.

This area was gradually sloping down and I hit upon the idea of getting thes simple semicircles of steles combined at the top and bottom and using Royal Palms and you could look through the palms on the inscriptions on either side and that would provide a memorial area of adequate size. I planned that masses of shrubbe would really prevent you from seeing this until you came upon it.

Then, going down the steps on either side, you would be in the area and at point would you look down on this because the height of this would be such that y would still look up at the top. This was designed as a background of a rostrum a some transition between this area and that area and it permitted steps to go down on each side and a rostrum here and distinguished guests, and so forth, in there. The ground continues on down and there would be a road here and there. There is ample distance in there for planting, and it would be approached from that side. There is a road across here. You could approach the lower side by a ramp.

Below here, in the requirements, there was a historical map of the battles o which you looked down from this.

The question was raised yesterday by Colonel Freeman as to whether that was unnecessary. I would like your opinion on this

MR. REINHARD: I feel there are two compositions.

MR. ALDRICH: I feel it is out of scale.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: One thing bothers me. Approaching it from here, you will see the top of the flagpole without seeing the base.

MR. TOMBS: That is always bad.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What is this going to be built out of?

MR. TOMBS: Limestone. I had originally thought of making it marble, but we could not afford it, and I think the limestone will be very good. The stone that pops out of these hills is volcanic stone and is a yellowish thing, and it would look good with limestone.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: As a practical question, the people who will look for the names will walk close by. They won't be able to hear them from here.

MR. TOMBS: I think they can.

[General discussion.]

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: For the record we can say we approve the plans and the Commission has suggested, with the concurrence of the architect and the gentlemen from the Army, the omission of the covered element in back of the rostrum, the simplification of the existing terrace where the flagpole is situated, the possibility of use of large stepping-stones, of the same materials as the steles, for the names in place of the paths.

We would like again to have the drawings. We won't need to see the model again.

COLONEL FREEMAN: We have one more in Alaska. That will be a rather simple one.

MAJOR KIRK: The third and last one we have is in Sitka, Alaska. We have there an existing national cemetery and we are going to have the commemorate, based on our best estimate to date, 1500. It is materially reduced from the other two places. This is an aerial photo of Sitka, Alasa, and here, in the lower righthand corner, is the location of the national cemetery. It is on a higher bluff and looks down on the city.

On this next page is the layout of the cemetery and this is the entrance to the cemetery. In this direction is the location of Sitka, Alaska. We thought, since this land rises from this point and goes up and your high point is up here where the present flagpole is, one of the first things is that we have no burials in this area or up here. On the reverse slope you cannot see Sitka, but here you can see Sitka from this vantage point. We suggested that the location of the memorial be at this point.

I will turn you over to Mr. Johnston who will give you his ideas from that standpoint.

MR. JOHNSTON: The program requirements in this case suggested a pavilion, assembly area and flagpole, and the locale of the pavilion and the assembly area and the walks and roadways and the planning of the entrance, we feel, is adequat The forecourt here will feature in the paving a map of Alaska and the Aleutian chain. The names will be memorialized on three plaques which would be on the wa opposite the three openings, and approximately 500 names will be put on each pla

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Carved in stone, Mr. Johnston?

MR. JOHNSTON: They would be on bronze, cast on bronze. The area is 1500 square feet and will seat 200 people, allowing 7-½ feet. There will be portable chairs. For the map in the paving, the use of different colors of granite inlay was suggested, and, by polishing and sandblasting these surfaces, you can get a substantial substance that will withstand the weather that we have in Sitka bett than any other material.

The construction of the pavilion, the retaining wall and the walks, is all inforced concrete.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Exposed concrete?

MR. JOHNSTON: Yes.

MR. MURPHY: Crushed out aggregate?

MR. JOHNSTON: No. It will be stuccoed or painted over, to give it color.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: I wonder if concrete lends itself to a memorial. I have never seen it used. It hasn't the feeling of permanence. Nobody has ever used c crete adequately except in California, in my opinion, and even there it is still concrete.

Could you use granite? After all, when you are doing these, you are doing them for men in Hawaii in marble and you cannot go to Sitka, Alaska, where the p devils froze to death, and do it in concrete. I would resent it if I were a brother or father or sister.

MR. JOHNSTON: We had considered the use of marble.

COLONEL FREEMAN: You are voicing my opinion which I raised yesterday. One the objections, they said, was that granite would not stand up in that climate.

MR. JOHNSTON: I know that it would stand up. It was the veneering that wouldn't stand up.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Build it out of solid granite.

MR. JOHNSTON: We have an Alaskan granite, but it is almost black.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: You could import a granite.

MR. JOHNSTON: Yes.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: A concrete-finished job will be a hideous comparison with all the others.

MR. FINLEY: Concrete is not handsome enough.

MR. JOHNSTON: We have quite a limited budget here due to the small number of names and the sizes of the monument.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: These things are permanent memorials. At least they should be as permanent as they can be made. We asked Battle Monuments to make the memorial chapel in the area at the Normandy landings in granite instead of a less permanent stone because it takes a beating from the weather and that is the most important battleground of the world within the last century. They agreed with that.

I think, up here, the fact is that, while you will have a few men, there will be people going there and some of them may have seen something of better material and they are going to be disappointed. The architect will come in for the biggest criticism.

COLONEL FREEMAN: I believe granite would be preferable if it is within our price range.

MR. JOHNSTON: Granite would be better than marble.

MR. LAWRIE: If you had granite, you would not use bronze tablets.

MAJOR KIRK: Assuming then that we would use granite rather than concrete, what about the design?

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: What would you think?

MR. REINHARD: I think it is a nice design, but not to have bronze tablets.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: It would be very handsome in granite.

[General discussion.]

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: Colonel, do you have standards of height for flagpoles?

COLONEL FREEMAN: We do. Seventy-five feet is usually the standard height because we have a flag that is about a 36-feet fly. It is 20 by 38. That is the largest flag that we have. It is called the garrison flag.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: It would look best on a 50-foot flagpole.

COLONEL FREEMAN: On certain days it would almost trail the ground.

CHAIRMAN CLARKE: We approve this design with the understanding that it will be done in a suitable granite, both for the memorial building and with the names inscribed in granite, and for the retaining walls and steps and the terrace in the immediate vicinity of the memorial itself.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 17, 1949.

Dear Colonel Freeman:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on November 10, 1949, gave careful consideration to the designs which you submitted for memorials in three national cemeteries outside the continental United States, and respectfully report as follows:

(1) National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Hawaii). The Commission gave general approval to the plans at this stage in their development. Certain suggestions were made including the simplification of the treatment at the top and rear of the amphitheatre.

(2) Sitka, Alaska, National Cemetery: The Commission approved the design for the memorial building at the present stage of development with the understanding that it will be designed for construction in granite and that the names of the missing service-men will be inscribed in granite instead of cast in bronze. The retaining walls, steps, and terrace in the vicinity of the memorial itself should also be in granite.

(3) Puerto Rico National Cemetery: The Commission approved the plans at the present stage in their development with the suggestion that (a) the architectural element in back of the rostrum be omitted; (b) that the existing terrace where the flagpole is situated be simplified; and (c) that the possibility of using large stepping-stones, of the same material as the steles, be substituted for the walks.

A resubmission of the drawings for all three projects, when they are further developed, is desired.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Colonel E. V. Freeman, QMG
Chief, Memorial Division,
Department of the Army,
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT D - 2

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 17, 1949

District of Columbia Court House

Dear Mr. Thorn:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on November 10, 1949, considered carefully the question related to the placing of figures in marble four feet in height, representing four of the great law-givers, Hammurabi, Justinian, Solon, and Moses, on the wall back of the Judges' bench in the large court room of the new District of Columbia Court House. The Commission expressed the opinion that, because of the importance of these great law-givers of the past, over life-sized figures (about 7' high) would be more appropriate than the smaller 4' figures.

The Commission are, however, appreciative of the fact that the Sculptor, Mr. Waugh, and the Architect, Mr. Justement, have given this matter careful study, and that they recommend that the four foot statues will serve adequately as appropriate decorative features. Therefore, the Commission adopted the following Resolution:

The Commission of Fine Arts have reviewed the designs for the four 4' statues of Hammurabi, Justinian, Solon, and Moses, submitted by Mr. Waugh, sculptor, and Mr. Justement, architect. While the Commission would prefer 7' figures in place of the 4' figures proposed by the Sculptor and the Architect, they feel, nevertheless, that inasmuch as the Sculptor and the Architect are satisfied with the 4' figures, the Commission will interpose no objection to carrying out the work as they have recommended.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Honorable A. S. Thorn
Supervising Architect
Public Buildings Administration
General Services
Washington, D.C.

EXHIBIT E

Honorable M. S. Green
Supervising Architect
Public Buildings Administration
General Services
Washington, D.C.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 17, 1949

Sculpture - General Accounting Office

Dear Mr. Thorn:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on November 10, 1949, approved the first study, in the form of photographs of a scale model, (for one of two bas-reliefs to be carved in granite at the south entrance of the new General Accounting Office) prepared by Joseph Kiselewski, Sculptor.

It is understood that a photograph of the completed model will be submitted to the Commission at a future meeting. The final model will be inspected by the Sculptor Member of the Commission.

The Commission look forward to the submission of a photograph of the model for the opposite side of the south entrance when Mr. Kiselewski is ready to submit it.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Honorable A. S. Thorn,
Supervising Architect,
Public Buildings Administration,
General Services,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

Dear Mr. Thorne

The Committee of the Whole, at its meeting on [illegible] to [illegible] approve the Silver Creek - Elm Tree Connector as a route model (for use of bus-only lanes in the center of thoroughfares) in the south entrance of the new General Information Office, designed by Joseph Blakeman, Architect.

It is recommended that a showing on of the model and report will be submitted to the Committee at a future meeting. The final model will be accepted by the Engineer Deputy of [illegible].

The Committee took forward to the completion of the project of the model for the expected date of [illegible] Mr. Wiseheart is ready to submit it.

For the Committee of Nine Five:

Sincerely yours,

Clarence [illegible]
Chairman

Honorable A. E. Thorn,
Supervising Architect,
Public Buildings Administration,
General Services,
Washington, D. C.

ENCLS.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washingtonn

November 10, 1949.

Dear General North:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the revised designs by William T. Aldrich, Architect, which you submitted, for the American Military Cemetery at St. James, France.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Brigadier General Thomas North,
Secretary,
The American Battle Monuments Commission,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT G

EXHIBIT G

COPY

INDIA LEAGUE OF AMERICA

Honorary Presidents:
Pearl S. Buck
Lin Yutang

40 EAST 49th STREET
New York 17,N.Y.

Cables: "INDIALEAG"
Telephone:
Plaza 3-5087 - 5088

November 2, 1949

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer,

Thank you for your letter of October 31.

I shall be present on Thursday, November 10, at 12:00 o'clock noon, to attend the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts.

With regard to the kind of Memorial we have in mind, our ideas are still about the same as when I had the pleasure of discussing this matter with you and Mr. Lee Lawrie. However, for easy reference, here below is a rough idea of our plans.

1) The Memorial is to take the shape of a beautiful and suitable building, with an auditorium to seat at least 500 persons, and a stage large enough for decent, sizable performances.

2) This building will also have enough room in its galleries to lodge historical exhibits from India. It would be our intention to bring some of the outstanding art collections of India, which would be exhibited in this building from time to time. In other words, every six months or so, a new exhibit would be shown in the building.

3) We would also like to have enough space, either in the galleries or in an annex, for a most complete library, consisting of books by Mahatma Gandhi, or about Mahatma Gandhi.

4) We hope that this Memorial will be the central place to propagate Mahatma Gandhi's ideas of universal brotherhood and peace, and will also be a means of promoting better understanding between the peoples of East and West.

5) To give this Memorial a proper background and impressive setting, approximately five acres of land will be required. We fully realize that a large area like this would not be available in any centrally located part of Washington. However, any desirable area of about five acres, within the District of Columbia, even though not centrally located, would be all right.

EXHIBIT H

6) We also propose that a typical Indian tree should be imported, and a row of such trees be planted in the grounds surrounding the Memorial Building. Perhaps a banyan or pipal tree would be suitable to Washington's climate.

These are some of the rough ideas. A lot will depend upon the area granted, and upon the response to the appeal for finances.

I shall be very glad to give additional information when I appear before your Committee.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)J. J. Singh, President,
India League of America

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Y

[Public Law 309—81st Congress]

[Chapter 587—1st Session]

[H. J. Res. 295]

JOINT RESOLUTION

To erect a memorial to the memory of Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Whereas India's greatest leader, Mohandas K. Gandhi, has met the martyr's death; and

Whereas the beloved Gandhi throughout his life had brought to the people of India and peoples everywhere the meaning of a selfless devotion to peace, and with it the gift of his own unbounded spiritual wealth; and

Whereas Mohandas Gandhi's uncompromisable strength led India to the independence for which it had sorely struggled; and

Whereas the impact of his personality upon history is undeniable; and

Whereas in consideration of the cordial relations existing between the people of the United States and the people of India, and in the hope that a memorial to his memory in the United States may further those cordial cultural and spiritual relations between these two countries, and in the further hope that such a memorial will awaken and keep alive in people everywhere the sense of their individual dignity and independence as well as an abhorrence for civil, religious, and communal strife anywhere: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That authority is hereby granted to the India League of America, or any other organization which may be organized for this purpose, to erect, within five years from the date of the approval of this resolution, a memorial testifying to the wisdom and leadership of Mohandas K. Gandhi, as philosopher and statesman, in the city of Washington, on such grounds as may be designated by the Fine Arts Commission, subject to the approval of the Joint Committee on the Library. The model of the memorial so to be erected shall be first approved by the said Commission and by the Joint Committee on the Library, the same to be presented to the people of the United States without cost to the Government of the United States: *Provided*, That the cost of custodian maintenance of the edifice contemplated by this Act will be borne perpetually by the organization undertaking its original construction.

Approved September 28, 1949.

[Public Law 157—81st Congress]
[Chapter 297—1st Session]
[H. J. Res. 240]

JOINT RESOLUTION

uthorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a statue of Simon Bolivar.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United tates of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the nterior is hereby authorized and directed to grant authority to the imon Bolivar Memorial Foundation, Washington, District of Columia, to erect a bronze statue of the liberator, Simon Bolivar, the gift f the Government of Venezuela, including pedestal, on an appropriate site on grounds now owned by the United States in the District f Columbia: *Provided*, That the design of the statue, including the edestal, and the site chosen shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the United States shall be put to no expense n or by the erection of this statue and proper landscape treatment f the site, so as to provide a proper setting, including planting, walks, nd curbs: *Provided further*, That unless the erection of this statue s begun within five years from and after the date of passage of this oint resolution, the authorization hereby granted is revoked.

Approved July 5, 1949.

EXHIBIT I

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 10, 1949.

Dear Mr. Root:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the preliminary design submitted by your Office for the Amphitheater proposed to be constructed at Sixteenth Street and Colorado Avenue, in Rock Creek Park.

When the preliminary design (incorporating certain suggestions made at the meeting today) is carried to the next stage in its development, the Commission will be pleased to review the drawings.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. Irving C. Root, Superintendent,
National Capital Parks,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting today, approved the preliminary design submitted by your office for the Smithsonian project to be developed on Jefferson Street and Independence Avenue, in Cook Landing Park.

When the preliminary design is more complete, it is suggested that you resubmit it for review. In view of the stage in its development, the Commission will be pleased to review the drawings.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Mr. Irving C. Moore, Superintendent,
National Capital Parks,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

November 14, 1949.

The Honorable William Manger
Assistant Secretary
Organization of American States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Manger:

Following a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, held on November 10, 1949, the members observed the planting now in progress on the grounds of the new Administration Building of the Pan American Union; they were greatly disappointed with it. The Commissioners asked me whether the plans for the planting now in progress had been submitted for consideration and approval and I reported that planting plans were not received until after the contract for the work had been let and a considerable part of the work completed.

Great emphasis has been placed upon the planting of small material, much of which is unsatisfactory for use to enhance the setting of an important monumental building; such plants as azaleas (in variety) and purple leaved flowering crabapples, for example, are wholly inappropriate.

The person who prepared the plan has, in the judgment of the Commission, shown himself to be unqualified, either by training or by experience, to undertake a task as important as this one.

The problem, the Commission believe, should have been given to a thoroughly competent landscape architect so that the resultant effect would have been to relate the new Administration Building to the other structures along Constitution Avenue. On the Constitution Avenue side, in particular, there should be formal plantings of large major trees to give the building the setting it deserves and to bring it into a cordial relationship with the other important structures to the west. On the Virginia Avenue side plantings of major trees should have taken into consideration the treatment of the triangular plot north of Virginia Avenue.

It is unfortunate that the planting that has been accomplished is trite, undistinguished, and completely inadequate as a setting for the new building of the Union; I venture to predict that the work will be the subject of much adverse criticism. While the Commission realize that considerable money has been spent upon the work thus far they feel, nevertheless, that it would be exceedingly unfortunate to leave it as it is and they asked me to say to you that they express the hope that it may be redone to the end that your new building may be given the setting it deserves.

While the Commission regret to bring this matter to your attention they feel that it is their duty to do so and they express the hope that you will accept the criticism in the spirit of helpfulness in which it is given.

Sincerely yours, H.P.Caemmerer,

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

EXHIBIT K

EXHIBIT A